DECLARATION

I, Lae Bong PARK, Patent Attorney, hereby declare the following:

I am knowledgeable in Korean and English. I have reviewed Korean Patent Application No.10-2002-0055471 and believe the attached document to be an accurate translation thereof.

All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. Further, these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date & Signature: Lae Bong PARK

ABSTRACT

Summary

Disclosed is a high-density read-only optical disc. Data is recorded in a Lead-In area of the high-density read-only Blu-ray disc (BD-ROM) in the form of straight pre-pits associated with HFM (High Frequency Modulated) grooves in order for the same tracking servo operation to be successively performed over the whole area of a single high-density read-only optical disc, such that it can efficiently prevent an algorithm for controlling a plurality of tracking servo units and an apparatus for implementing the algorithm from being undesirably complicated.

Key Figure

Figure 7

Key Words

BD-RW, BD-ROM, DPD, minimum length pit, pre-pit, PIC area, HFM groove

SPECIFICATION

Title

HIGH-DENSITY READ-ONLY OPTICAL DISC

Brief Description Of The Drawings

Fig. 1 shows an exemplary disc structure of a conventional BD-RW;

Fig. 2 shows HFM grooves recorded in a Lead-In area of the conventional BD-RW;

Fig. 3 is a schematic diagram of a push/pull tracking servo applied to the conventional BD-RW;

Fig. 4 shows an exemplary disc structure of a conventional BD-ROM;

Fig. 5 is a schematic diagram of a DPD tracking servo applied to a conventional optical disc apparatus;

Fig. 6 shows an exemplary disc structure of a BD-ROM in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 7 shows exemplary recording patterns of pits recorded in the Lead-In area of the BD-ROM in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention; and

Fig. 8 is a schematic diagram of a DPD tracking servo applied to the BD-ROM in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Major Elements In Drawings

10, 20 : objective lens
11, 21 : collimator lens
12, 22 : photo-detector
13, 25, 32 : differential amplifier
23, 24, 30, 31 : sum amplifier
26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36 : phase detector

Background Of The Invention

The present invention relates to a high-density read-only optical disc such as a Blu-ray disc capable of storing large amounts of video and audio data.

In recent times, there has been newly developed a high-density optical disc capable of storing large amounts of high-quality video data and high-quality audio data, for example, a BD-RW (Blu-ray Disc Rewritable) shown in Fig. 1. Many developers have conducted intensive research into the high-density optical disc and its standardization, and it is expected that the high-density optical disc and its associated products will become increasingly popular as a recording medium.

Referring to Fig. 1, the BD-RW is comprised of a plurality

of areas, for example, a clamping area, a transition area, a BCA (Burst Cutting Area), a Lead-In area, a data area, and a Lead-Out area, etc. In more detail, the clamping area, the transition area, the BCA, and the Lead-In area are sequentially located at the inner track area of the BD-RW, the data area is located at the center track area of the BD-RW, and the Lead-Out area is located at the outer track area of the BD-RW.

The Lead-In area is classified into a first guard area (Guard 1), a PIC (Permanent Information & Control data) area, a second guard area (Guard 2), an information area (Info 2), and an OPC (Optimum Power Control) area, etc. The first guard area (Guard 1) and the PIC area serve as pre-recorded areas where data has been previously stored. The remaining Lead-In area other than the first guard and PIC areas, the data area, and the Lead-Out area serve as rewritable areas where new data is rewritten.

The PIC area is adapted to store the principal information to be permanently kept on the disc, and is configured in the form of HFM (High Frequency Modulated) grooves. As shown in Fig. 2, the HFM grooves are modulated by a bi-phase modulation scheme, and store DI (Disc Information) therein.

For example, provided that only HFM grooves having the same phase exist during a predetermined period 36T, an output value "0" is created. Otherwise, provided that HFM grooves having different phases exist during a predetermined period 36T, an output value "1" is created.

A tracking servo for tracking the HFM grooves recorded in the PIC area uses a well-known Push/Pull method. Therefore, an optical disc apparatus includes a two-division photo-detector 12 for converting an optical signal received via an objective lens 10 and a collimator lens 11 into electrical signals Ea and Eb, and a differential amplifier 13 for differentially amplifying the electrical signals Ea and Eb generated from the two-division photo-detector 12, and outputting a tracking error signal "TE = Ea-Eb",

as shown in Fig. 3.

The optical disc apparatus performs a tracking servo operation for the HFM grooves by referring to the tracking error signal "TE = Ea-Eb" received from the differential amplifier 13. Also, the optical disc apparatus performs such a tracking servo operation for wobbled grooves recorded in the data area and the Lead-Out area by referring to the tracking error signal "TE = Ea-Eb" generated from the differential amplifier 13.

Meanwhile, a high-density read-only optical disc such as a BD-ROM (Blu-ray Disc Read Only Memory), which is now being discussed by associated companies along with the BD-RW, includes a clamping area and a Lead-In area located at its inner track area, a data area located at its center track area, and a Lead-Out area located at its outer track area, as shown in Fig. 4. In the BD-ROM, DI (Disc Information) is recorded, in the Lead-In area, in the same form of HFM grooves as in the BD-RW, and pre-pit data is recorded in the data area and the Lead-Out area in the same manner as in a CD-ROM or a DVD-ROM.

Provided that disc information (DI) is recorded in the Lead-In area of the BD-ROM using HFM grooves in the same manner as in the BD-RW, a push/pull tracking servo used for a tracking servo of the HFM grooves and a DPD tracking servo used for a tracking servo of the pre-pit data recorded in the data area and the Lead-Out area are all required.

Provided that only HFM grooves exist in the Lead-In area and pre-pit data is not recorded in the Lead-In area, a PLL (Phase Locked Loop) operation using RF signals is unavailable, such that a data reading operation (also called a data reproducing operation) is unexpectedly discontinued in the vicinity of a connection part between the Lead-In area and the data area.

Referring to Fig. 5, an optical disc apparatus includes a four-division photo-detector 22, a plurality of phase detectors 26, 27, 28, and 29, first and second sum amplifiers 23 and 24, and a

differential amplifier 25. The four-division photo-detector 22 converts an optical signal received via an objective lens 20 and a collimator lens 21 into electrical signals Ea, Eb, Ec, and Ed. The phase detectors 26, 27, 28, and 29 detect individual phases of the electrical signals Ea, Eb, Ec, and Ed received from the four-division photo-detector 22. The first and second sum amplifiers 23 and 24 add the detected phase signals received from the phase detectors, and amplify the added signals. The differential amplifier 25 receives the added signals from the first and second sum amplifiers 23 and 24, and differentially amplifies the received signals. Therefore, different tracking servo operations, i.e., a push/pull tracking servo operation and a DPD tracking servo operation, must be performed on a single BD-ROM loaded in the optical disc apparatus, such that a complicated algorithm is needed to control a plurality of tracking servos and a large-sized optical disc apparatus is also needed.

Explanation Of The Invention

Therefore, the present invention has been made in view of the above problems, and it is an object of the present invention to provide a high-density optical disc and an apparatus and method for reproducing/recording data stored in a Lead-In area of the high-density optical disc, which record the data in the form of straight pre-pits associated with HFM grooves in the Lead-In area in order to successively perform the same tracking servo operation over the whole area of a single high-density optical disc.

In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, the above and other objects can be accomplished by the provision of a high-density read-only optical disc comprising: a lead-in area; a data area; and a lead-out area,

wherein the Lead-In area including a specific area having a straight pit-shaped line created by repeated marks and spaces, and either one of the mark or the space is recorded with a minimum pit length.

Now, preferred embodiments of the present invention will be described in detail with reference to the annexed drawings.

Fig. 6 shows an exemplary disc structure of a high-density read-only optical disc according to the present invention. The high-density read-only optical disc such as a BD-ROM includes a clamping area and a Lead-In area located at its inner track area, a data area located at its center track area, and a Lead-Out area located at its outer track area, as shown in Fig. 6.

Pre-pit data is stored in the data and Lead-Out areas in the same manner as in a general CD-ROM or DVD-ROM. In the BD-ROM, data is recorded in the form of straight pre-pits associated with HFM grooves in the Lead-In area, such that the same tracking servo operation can be successively performed over the whole area of a single BD-ROM. An associated detailed description will hereinafter be given.

Fig. 7 shows exemplary recording patterns of pits recorded in the Lead-In area of the BD-ROM according to the present invention. For example, DI (Disc Information) permanently stored in the PIC area contained in the Lead-In area is recorded in the form of straight pits wherein a predetermined mark/space pair is repeated or a predetermined space/mark pair is repeated, as shown in Fig. 7.

A mark/space pair or a space/mark pair repeatedly recorded is recorded in the Lead-In area on the basis of bi-phase modulated HFM grooves of the BD-RW (Blu-ray Disc Rewritable). In more detail, the mark/space pair or the

space/mark pair is repeatedly recorded in a period 18T or 36T having the same level, with a unique pattern corresponding to a representative data value of the period 36T.

Either one of the mark or the space is recorded with a minimum pit length 2T, such that a signal needed for a tracking servo operation can be successively detected more frequently. For example, as shown in Fig. 7, a pair of a mark 2Tm having a predetermined length 2T and a space 7Ts having a predetermined length 7T is recorded two times in a high-level period "18T" contained in a period 36T an representative data value of which is "1". A pair of a mark 7Tm having a predetermined length 7T and a space 2Ts having a predetermined length 2T is recorded two times in a low-level period "18T" contained in the period 36T an representative data value of which is "1".

A pair of the mark 2Tm having the length 2T and the space 7Ts having the length 7T is recorded four times in a high-level period "36T" a representative data value of which is "0". A pair of the mark 7Tm having the length 7T and the space 2Ts having the length 2T is recorded four times in a low-level period "36T" a representative data value of which is "0".

In more detail, provided that a data sequence having a predetermined value "01" is recorded in the Lead-In area, data 2Tm, 7Ts, 2Tm, and 7Ts is recorded in the high-level period "18T", data 7Tm, 2Ts, 7Tm, and 2Ts is recorded in the low-level period "18T", and data 2Tm, 7Ts, 2Tm, 7Ts, 2Tm, 7Ts, 2Tm, and 7Ts is then recorded in the high-level period "36T", as shown in Fig. 8.

Therefore, the optical disc apparatus reads sampling of RF signals created by pit-shaped data of the above recording pattern, such that it can discriminate among a representative data value "0" of the high-level period "36T", a

representative data value "0" of the low-level period "36T", and a representative data value "1"of a period 36T having different phases therein.

The optical disc apparatus shown in Fig. 8 which comprises a four-division photo-detector 22 for converting an optical signal into electrical signals Ea, Eb, Ec, and Ed, a plurality of phase detectors 33, 34, 35, and 36 for detecting individual phases of the electrical signals Ea, Eb, Ec, and Ed, first and second sum amplifiers 30 and 31, and a differential amplifier 32, adapts a DPD tracking servo operation to the Lead-In area, such that the DPD tracking servo operation can be successively performed over the whole area of the BD-ROM.

For reference, the mark/space pair "2Tm/7Ts" or "7Tm/2Ts" may be replaced with a new mark/space pair "2Tm/4Ts" or "4Tm/2Ts" if needed. In this case, the pair "2Tm/4Ts" is repeatedly recorded in the high-level period "18T" three times, and the other pair "4Tm/2Ts" is repeatedly recorded in the low-level period "18T" three times.

The pair "2Tm/4Ts" is repeatedly recorded in the high-level period "36T" six times, and the other pair "4Tm/2Ts" is repeatedly recorded in the low-level period "36T" six times.

Although the preferred embodiments of the present invention have been disclosed for illustrative purposes, the push/pull tracking servo and the DPD tracking servo shown in the present invention are well known to those skilled in the art, and therefore those skilled in the art will appreciate that various modifications, additions and substitutions are possible, without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention as disclosed in the accompanying claims.

Effect Of The Invention

As apparent from the above description, the present invention provides a high-density optical disc, such that it can efficiently prevent an algorithm for controlling a plurality of tracking servos and an apparatus for implementing the algorithm from being undesirably complicated.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A high-density read-only optical disc, comprising:
a lead-in area;
a data area; and
a lead-out area,
wherein the Lead-In area including a specific area having a straight pit-shaped line created by repeated marks and spaces, and either one of the mark or the space is recorded with a minimum pit length.

2. The disc as set forth in claim 1, wherein the specific area is an area corresponding to a PIC (Permanent Information & Control data) area, contained in the lead-In area of the high-density re-writable optical disc, for permanently storing principal disc information.

3. The disc as set forth in claim 2, wherein the high-density read-only optical disc is a BD-ROM (Blu-ray Disc ROM), and the high-density re-writable optical disc is a BD-RW (Blu-ray Disc Rewritable).

4. The disc as set forth in claim 1, wherein the mark and the space are repeatedly recorded with different unique pit lengths according to a Bi-phase modulated HFM groove of a high-density re-writable Blu-ray disc and a data value.

FIG. 1

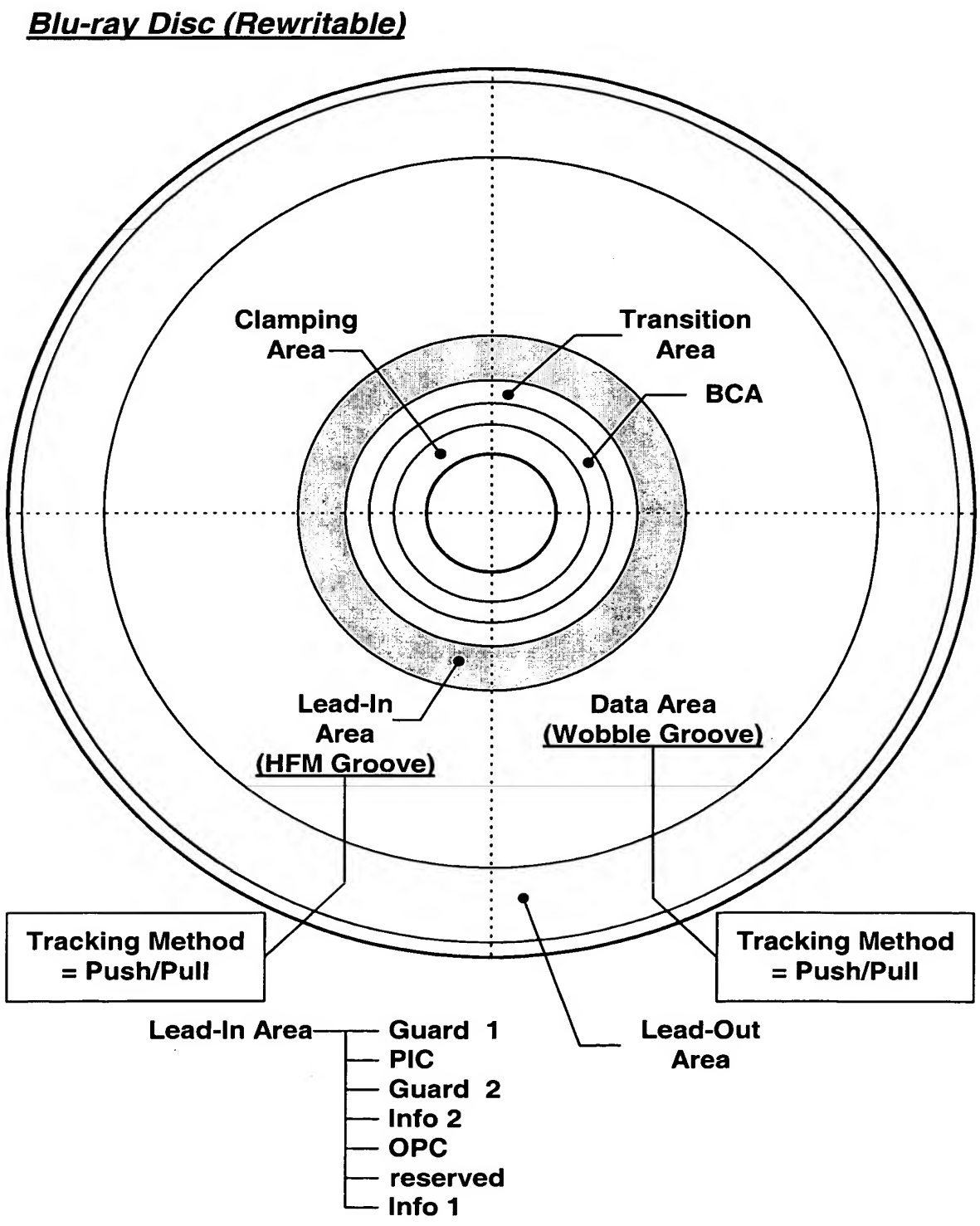


FIG. 2

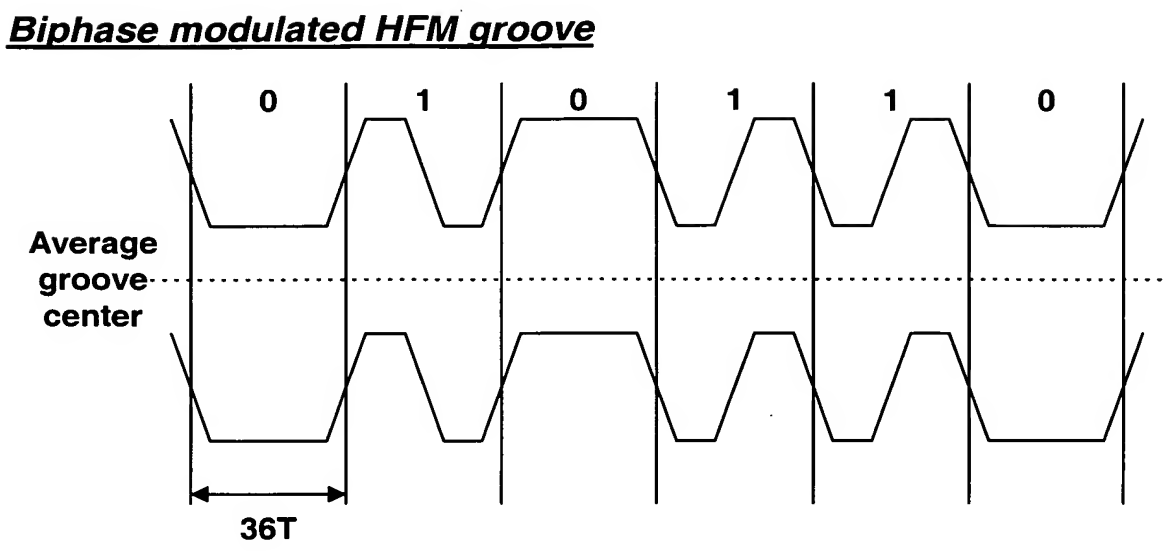

Biphase modulated HFM groove
0
1
0
1
1
0
Average groove center
36T

FIG. 3

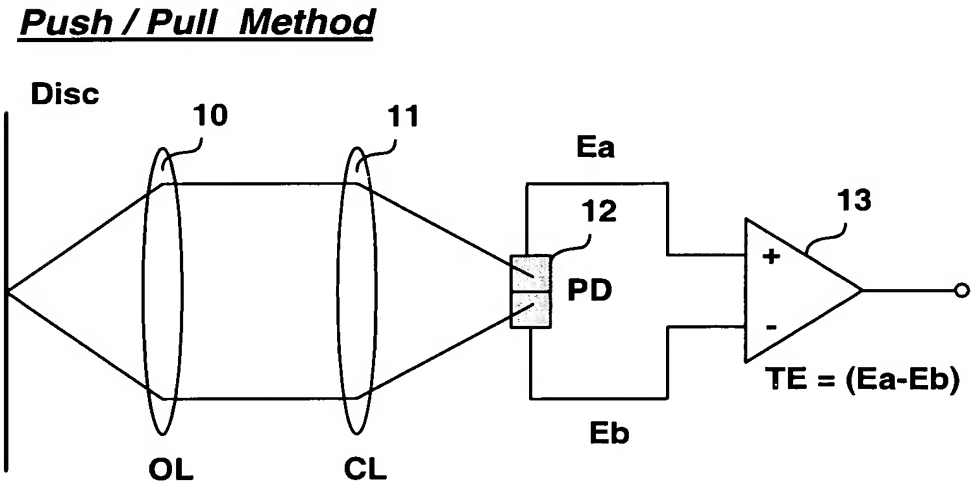

Push / Pull Method
Disc
10
11
Ea
12
13
PD
+
-
TE = (Ea-Eb)
Eb
OL
CL

FIG. 4

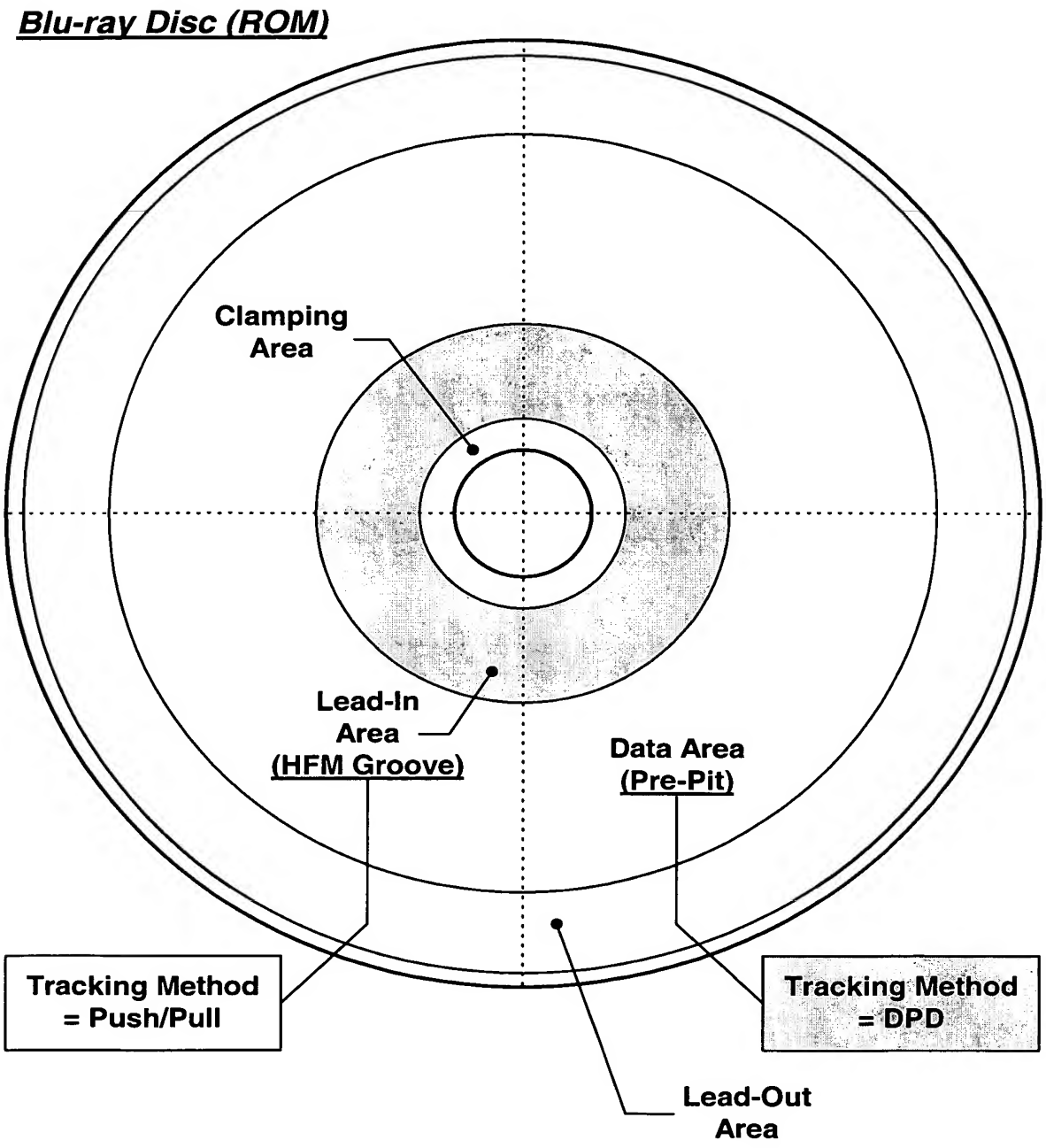

Blu-ray Disc (ROM)
Clamping Area
Lead-In Area (HFM Groove)
Data Area (Pre-Pit)
Tracking Method = Push/Pull
Tracking Method = DPD
Lead-Out Area

FIG. 5

DPD Method

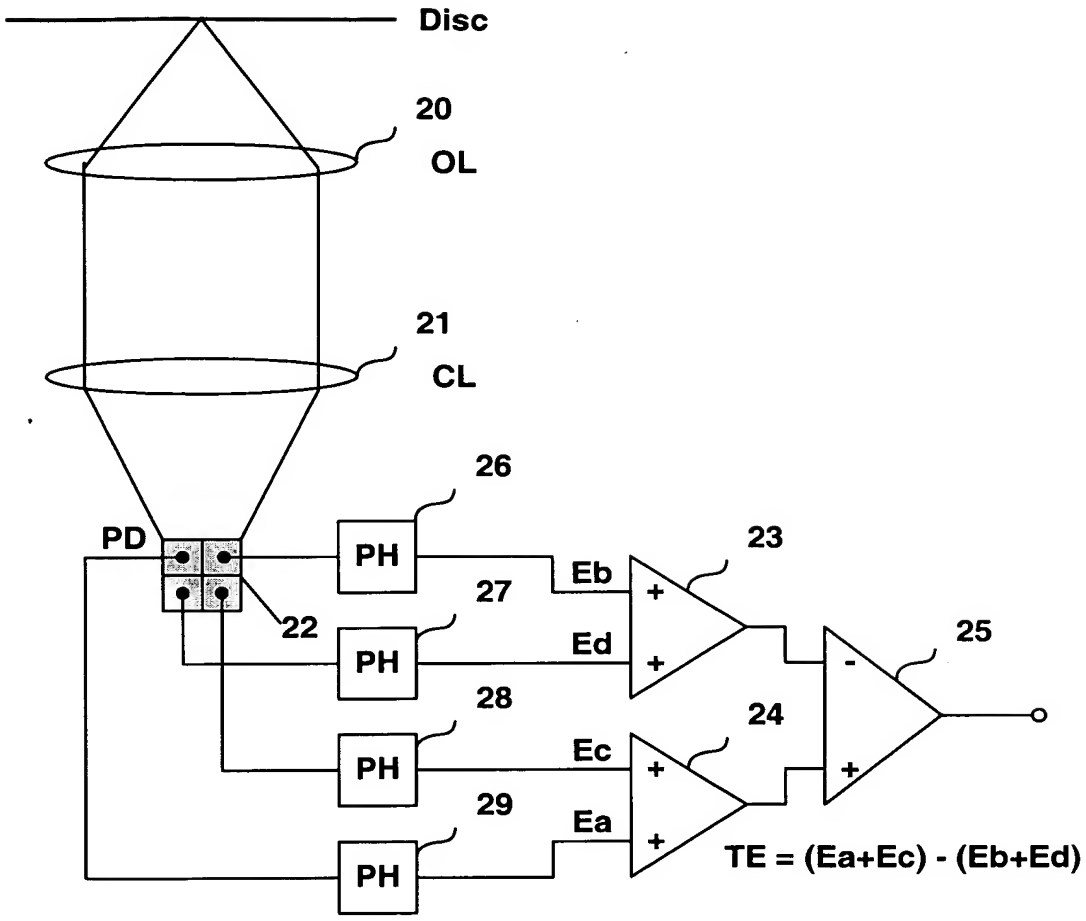


FIG. 6

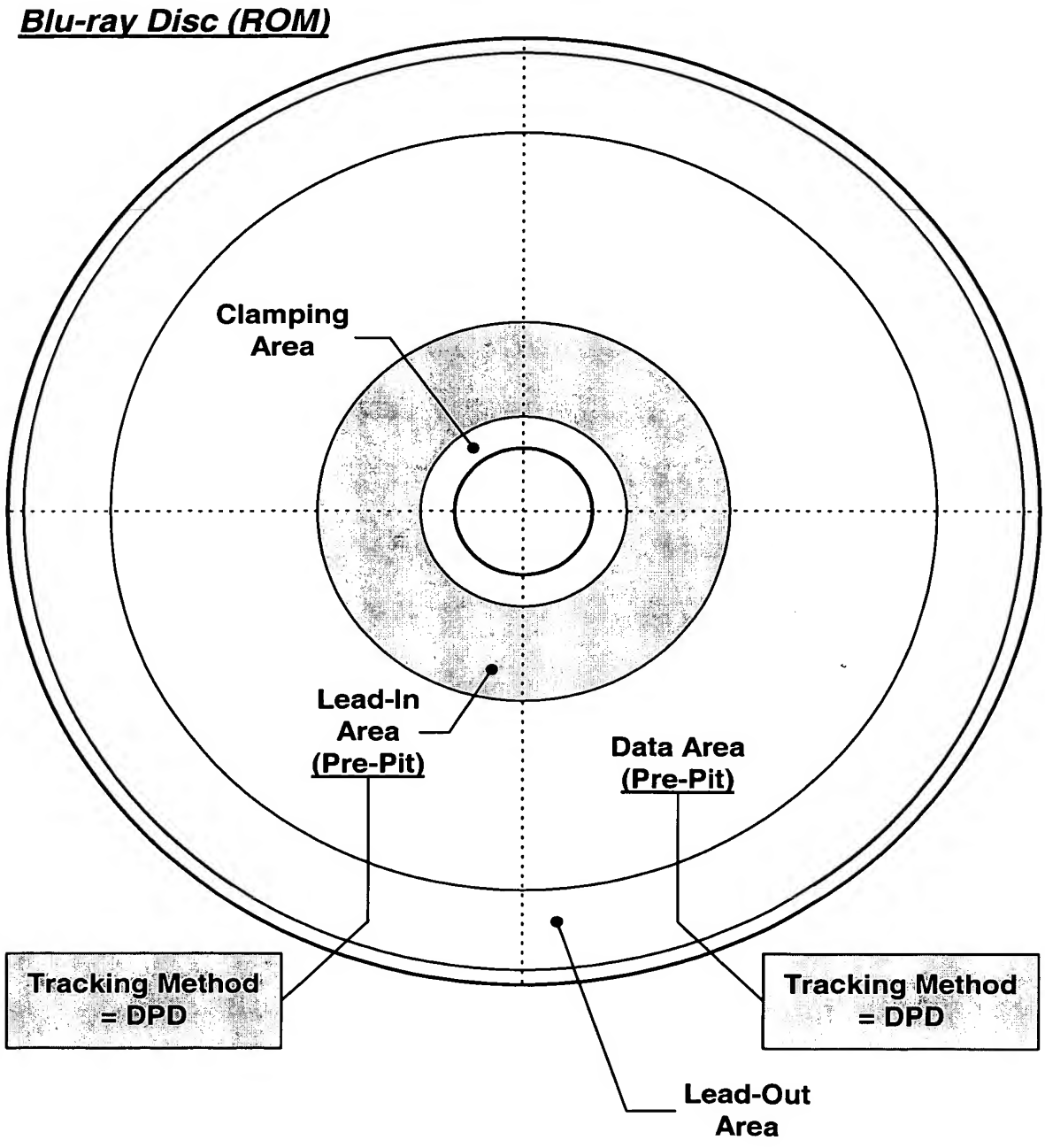

Blu-ray Disc (ROM)
Clamping Area
Lead-In Area (Pre-Pit)
Data Area (Pre-Pit)
Tracking Method = DPD
Tracking Method = DPD
Lead-Out Area

FIG. 7

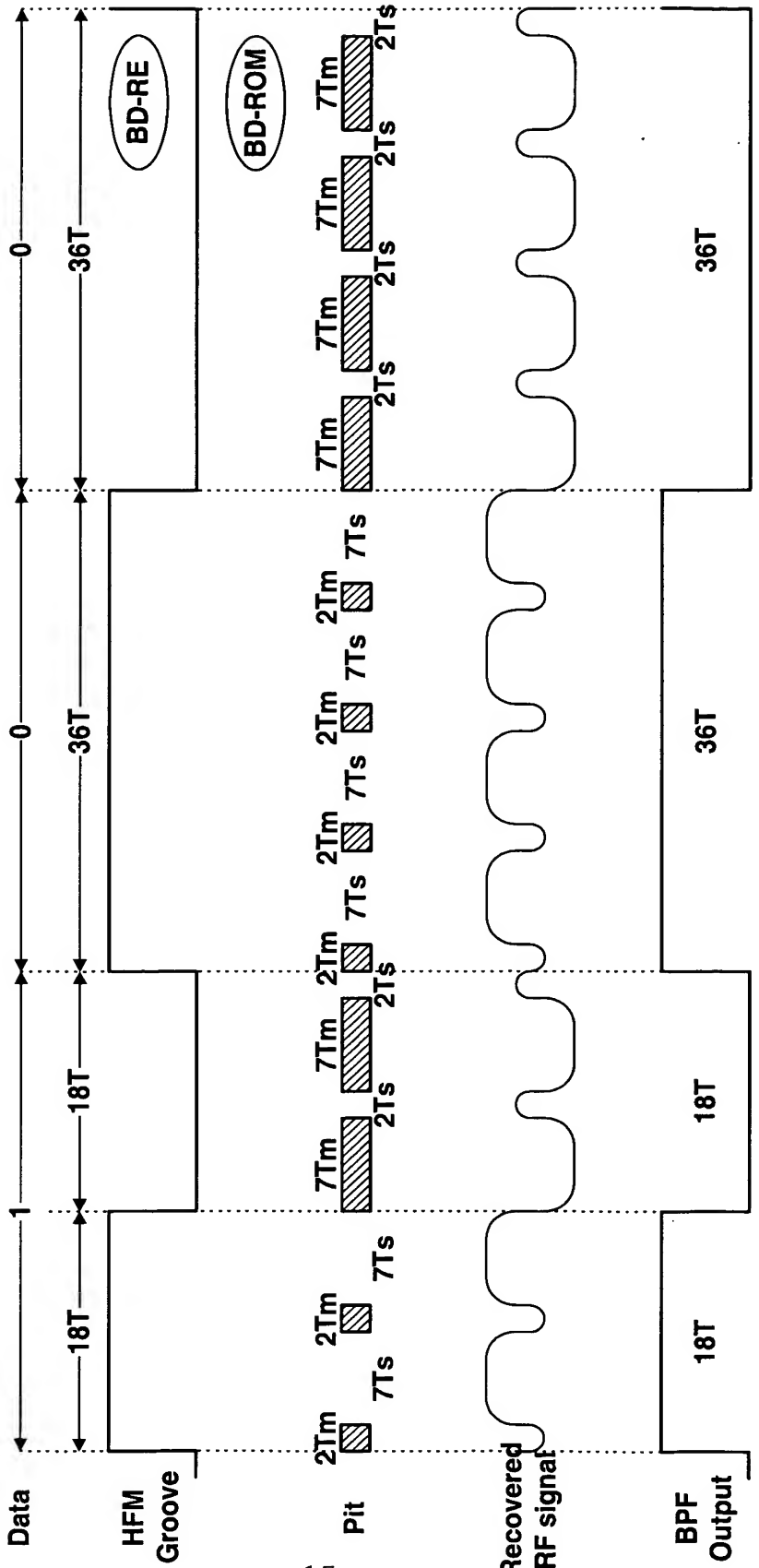
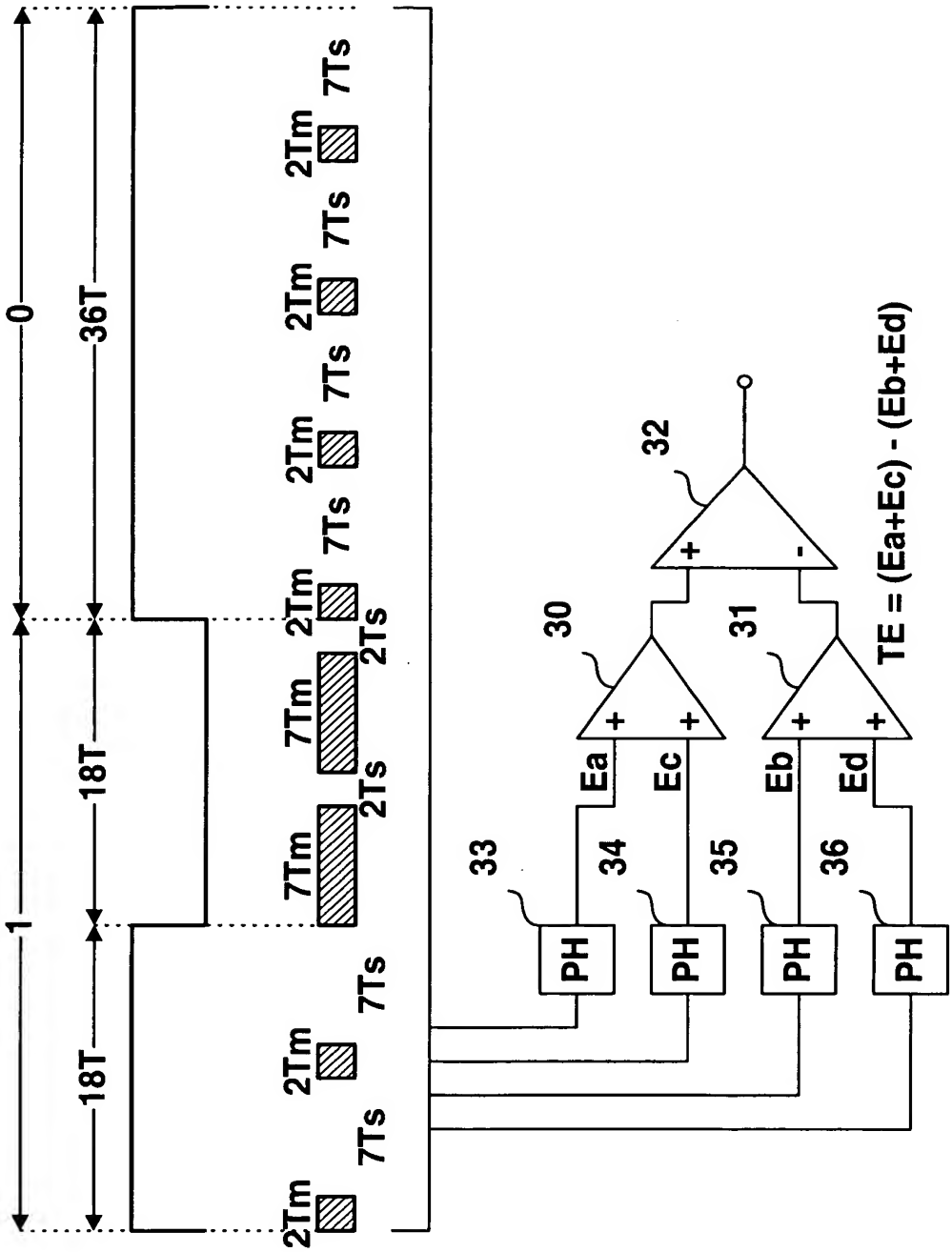

Data
HFM Groove
Pit
Recovered RF signal
BPF Output
BD-RE
BD-ROM
0
1
18T
36T
2Tm
7Ts
7Tm
2Ts

FIG. 8


0
36T
18T
1
18T
2Tm
7Ts
7Tm
2Ts
32
30
31
+
-
Ea
Ec
Eb
Ed
33
34
35
36
PH
TE = (Ea+Ec) - (Eb+Ed)